

## 910 17<sup>th</sup> Street N.W., 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Washington, DC 20006-2606

FOIA officer U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW Washington, DC 20460

Dear EPA FOIA Officer:

This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

On behalf of the Center for Public Integrity and myself, jointly, I request that you provide us copies of the records identified and described below – or of records containing the information identified and described below:

 Emails and attachments, electronic calendar entries or invites, electronic meeting notes or summaries, reports, studies, analyses, datasets, talking points created by, sent to or received by staff of the Office of the Administrator, Office of Air and Radiation, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance or the Office of Research and Development containing the following search terms or keywords:

**AFO** animal feeding operation Agricultural Air Research Council air compliance agreement animal waste **CAFO** concentrated animal feeding operation **EEM** emissions estimating methodology EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0960 feedlot lagoon manure **NAEMS** national air emissions modeling study national monitoring study OPE-FY16-0018 process-based

• The date range for this request is January 1, 2019, and the date you conduct the search for responsive records.

Format: We prefer to receive records in the following formats, listed in order of preference:

- (1) word processing file, text-based PDF, or similar;
- (2) other non-proprietary electronic format;
- (3) paper copies.

Please also provide any and all documentation related to such electronic records, including but not limited to data dictionaries, database documentation, record layouts, code sheets, data entry instructions, and similar printed or electronic documentation materials.

We specifically request all portions of any record responsive to the description above. If you withhold any record or any portion of a record as exempt, we specifically request the release of all segregable non-exempt portions, including but not limited to email header information (e.g., sender, recipients, date, subject) and analogous information in non-email documents.

If you withhold any record or portion of a record, please specify which statutory exemptions are claimed for each withholding. Please separately state how disclosure would harm an interest protected by the cited exemption. Please describe each record withheld, including its date and size (e.g., amount of electronic memory or number of paper pages).

Please also produce the records on a rolling basis; at no point should EPA's search for, or deliberations concerning, certain records delay the production of others that EPA has already retrieved and elected to produce.

Please respond within 20 working days, as the Act provides, or notify me if "unusual" or "exceptional" circumstances apply (as the Act uses those terms).

## Request for fee reduction as a representative of the news media

The Center for Public Integrity is a news media organization, and therefore this request should be exempt from all fees for search and review. This request is being made in connection with the Center's newsgathering functions and not for any other commercial purpose. The Center intends to produce one or more original investigative reports based on analysis of the requested information. The Center's work has won the Pulitzer Prize in 2014 and 2017 and numerous other journalism awards (see <a href="http://www.publicintegrity.org/about/our-work/awards">http://www.publicintegrity.org/about/our-work/awards</a>).

The only federal court to consider the issue has held that the Center "is entitled to treatment as a representative of the news media for purposes of FOIA." <u>Center for Public Integrity v. HHS</u>, Civil Case No. 06-1818, 2007 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 56172 (D.D.C. Aug. 3, 2007), <a href="https://ecf.dcd.uscourts.gov/cgi-bin/show\_public\_doc?2006cv1818-15">https://ecf.dcd.uscourts.gov/cgi-bin/show\_public\_doc?2006cv1818-15</a>. In addition, our reporters covering Congress and congressional committees are credentialed by the Standing Committee of Correspondents of the Congressional Daily Press Gallery.

We expect that duplication fees for producing electronic records will be minimal. If there are processing fees greater than \$25, inform me before you fill the request, and I will provide additional information in support of a public interest fee waiver.

Please feel free to contact me about any aspect of this request. In principle, the Center is willing to consider ways in which the request might reasonably be narrowed.

I certify that the information I have provided is true and correct. Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

Joe Wertz

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